GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:967
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2007
INTERRUPTION IN BSNL SERVICES .
Bose Shri Subrata

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to shortage of electricity supply to energise the telephone lines in exchanges, the services of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) are badly affected in different parts of the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the areas where such problems are being encountered by BSNL ;

(c) whether BSNL is serious in countering such problems to provide better facilities to its subscribers; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Sir, there is an acute problem of non-availability of commercial electric power supply particularly in rural telephone exchanges in some of BSNL's Telecom circles such as Bihar,Orissa,Jharkhand,J&K,North East-II,Karnataka,Punjab and Maharashtra.Although services are maintained by running Engine Alternator and Battery backups, these get affected sometimes due to poor availability of commercial power supply.

(b)Details of areas where such problems are being encountered by BSNL are as follows :

Sl. No.	Telecom Circle	Area	No. of exchanges where power problem is there
1.	Bihar	Area spread over all the districts	900
2.	Orissa	Keonjhar	02
		Bhawanipatna	15
3.	Jharkhand	Jamshedpur	56
4.	J&K	Leh and Srinagar	44
5.	North East-II	Nagaland -	06
		Arunachal Pradesh	49
		Manipur	20
6.	Karnataka	Hassan and Shimoga	71
7	Punjab	Sangrur	07
8.	Maharashtra	Ahmednagar	104
		Bhandara, Jalna, Raigad, Sangli and Yeotmal	

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) BSNL has taken various steps such as:

1. Provision of backup batteries with adequate capacity;

2. Provision of solar power panels in many places;

3. Provision of Diesel Generator/Engine Alternators of adequate capacity;

4. Taking up the matter with senior managements of state electricity authorities and state government for giving due priority in providing adequate commercial power supply to BSNL telephone exchanges.